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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Latvia USSR

DATE DISTR. 19 Jun 1953

SUBJECT Railroad Bridges Riga to Valka/Jericki to Gulbene

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1. [redacted] train from Riga to Valka (57°47'N - 26°E). This is a single-track railroad.
2. [redacted] railroad bridges along this route from Riga to Valka. All are of steel upperstructure with concrete piers and are used for rail lines only. All are single track. None are ever flooded.
3. The first bridge is located about 15 kilometers northeast of Riga. It crosses the Jugla River. It is about 40 meters long and four meters above the water level. It was built in the early 1920's. This is probably the strongest bridge along the entire route. [redacted] the Germans sent five or six long trains each hour across this bridge for several months shortly after they occupied Latvia. It has one supporting concrete pier in the river.
4. The next bridge is located near Sigulda (57°10'N - 24°52'E). [redacted] It is about ten meters long.
5. The next bridge is located about five or six kilometers north of Ligatne (57°11'N - 25°1'E). This bridge is about 10 or 15 meters long.
6. The next bridge is situated about 15 kilometers north of Ligatne. It crosses the Ligatne River. It is about 25 meters long and about four meters above the water level.
7. About seven kilometers north of Cesis (57°19'N - 25°16'E) there is a very important bridge over the Rauna River. This bridge is about 20 or 22 meters above the water level and is the highest railroad bridge in the Latvian railroad system. This bridge is about 14 meters long. It was built before World War I.
8. The last bridge along this route [redacted] is located about 15 kilometers north of Valmiera (57°33'N - 25°25'E) over the Gauje River. It is about 60 meters long and 10 meters above the water level. It was built about 1933.
9. There may be other bridges along this route [redacted]

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10. [redacted] railroad from Jerichi (a small village or about two hundred persons located about 12 kilometers east of Ligatne) east to Gulbene (57°11'N - 26°20'E). All the bridges along this route are of steel construction with concrete piers. All are single track only and none of them are ever flooded.
11. The first bridge along this route is located about eight kilometers east of Jerichi over the Ligatne River. It is about 15 meters long and four or five meters above the water level.
12. Dzerbene (57°12'N - 25°38'E) is a railroad station only. The village of about two hundred persons is located about five kilometers south of this station. The railroad bridge is situated about 12 kilometers east of the railroad station. This bridge is over the Gauja River. The bridge is about 30 meters long and five meters above the water level.
13. The last bridge along this route [redacted] located about 20 kilometers west of Gulbene. It is about 20 meters long.
14. Railroad routes described in this report are those shown on World Aeronautical Chart #153.

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